

**INITIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT FAX SHEET OF RECEIPT OF
DEFECT INFORMATION REPORT SUBMITTED UNDER 49 CFR PART 573**

Assigned Recall No. 03V-314 by the
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

Part 573 Report Date: August 28, 2003

DATE FAXED: August 29, 2003

MANUFACTURER: Wabash National

MANUFACTURER CONTACT: Sarah-Louise Kerney
Compliance Manager

FAX: (765) 771-5552


SUBJECT: 9,517 Wabash and Fruehauf 1997-2000 van trailers equipped with spring brake control valve assemblies manufactured from January 1997 through December 2002. There is a recessed area on top of the valve in which a brass guide pin fits down inside the body of the valve and is held in place by a steel snap ring. The recessed area allows accumulation of water, dirt, and/or chemicals, occasionally resulting in corrosion. This corrosion builds up behind the snap ring to the point where it will no longer contain the guide pin, resulting in a failure of the air valve. Failure of the valve in an empty or lightly loaded trailer while the vehicle is in motion could result in a hard application of the spring brakes, possibly locking up the trailer wheels and resulting in a vehicle crash.

This is an acknowledgment for this recall. A formal acknowledgment letter will be written **ONLY** if we have additional comments or concerns.

It is our understanding that Sealco (02E-028) will conduct the owner notification and remedy for this recall.

The recall was the subject of Equipment Query (EQ03-013) conducted by the Office of Defects Investigation.

If you have any questions, please call:

 Judith Taylor, Safety Defect Analyst on (202) 366-9525
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Recall Management Division